processor-containing system, or other system that can fetch the instructions from the instruction execution system, apparatus, or device and execute the instructions.

As used herein, a "computer-readable medium" can be any means that can store, communicate, propagate or transport a program for use by or in connection with an instruction execution system, apparatus, or device. Thus, a computer readable medium can be, for example but not limited to, an electronic, magnetic, optical, electromagnetic, infrared, or semiconductor system, apparatus, device, or propagation medium. More specific examples (a nonexhaustive list) of a computer-readable medium include the following: an electrical connection (electronic) having one or more wires, a portable computer diskette (magnetic), a random access memory (RAM) (electronic), a read-only memory (ROM) (electronic), an erasable programmable read-only memory (EPROM, EEPROM, or Flash memory) (electronic), an optical fiber (optical), and a portable compact disc read-only memory (CDROM) (optical). Note that the computer-readable medium could even be paper or another suitable medium upon which the program is printed, as the program could be electronically captured, via optical scanning of the paper or other medium, then compiled, interpreted or otherwise processed in a suitable manner, if necessary, and then stored in a computer memory.

Reference will now be made to the flowchart of FIG. 3, which depicts the functionality of a representative embodiment of input system 110. In this regard, each block of the flowchart represents a module segment or portion of code that comprises one or more executable instructions for implementing the specified logical function(s). It should also be noted that in some alternative implementations the functions noted in various blocks of FIG. 3, or any other of the accompanying flowcharts, may occur out of the order in which they are depicted. For example, two

blocks shown in succession in FIG. 3 may, in fact, be executed substantially concurrently. In other embodiments, the blocks may sometimes be executed in the reverse order depending upon the functionality involved.

As shown in FIG. 3, the functionality of the representative embodiment of the input system or method 110 may be construed as beginning at block 310 where input from a user is received. For example, the input system could receive an input corresponding to the user attempting to access information from a service, *e.g.*, a service implementing and/or associated with a services system. In block 320, the input system determines the user's location, such as by receiving information corresponding to the user's location from a locating device. In other embodiments, the input system could determine the cell location of the user, as described before. Thereafter, such as depicted in block 330, the input system enables information, which preferably includes information corresponding to the location of the user, to be provided to a services system, for example. More specifically, when the input system is implemented in a portable computing device, the input system can enable the information to be provided to a communication network, such as network 120 of FIG. 1, for transmission to an appropriate services system. In response to the information provided by the input system, an appropriately configured services system could then provide information to the user.

Embodiments of the input system also can perform an information filtering function. In particular, the input system can be adapted to provide information to a user, such as via a portable computing device, if the information corresponds to the user's current location. That is, the input system can filter information that does not correspond to the user's location. The functionality of such an input system is depicted in the representative embodiment of FIG. 4. In FIG. 4, the input system or

method 110 can be construed as beginning at block 410 where an input is received. By way of example, the information could be provided to the input system by a services system or any other system that is capable of providing information to the user. In block 420, the input system determines the user's location. Thereafter, such as depicted in block 430, a determination is made as to whether the information received corresponds to the user's location. If it is determined that the information corresponds to the user's location, the process may proceed to block 440, where the information is provided to the user, such as via a display device of a portable computing device. If, however, it is determined that the information does not correspond to the user's location, the process may proceed to block 450, where the information can be disregarded, *e.g.*, not provided to the user.

The aforementioned functionality could be particularly useful when services attempt to "push" or provide unsolicited advertisements and/or information to a user via a portable computing device. In such a scenario, a user could potentially be provided with a tremendous amount of irrelevant information. By using an input system that is adapted for filtering information, the amount of information provided to the user could be dramatically reduced. More specifically, the user may only be provided with information corresponding to the user's location. This reduced amount of information may permit the user to review a larger portion of the received information and, consequently, may result in a more effective advertising strategy for services providing unsolicited information, for example.

As mentioned before, the ability to provide location-specific information to a user can be accomplished, at least in part, by a services system 100 (FIG. 1). A representative embodiment of services system will now be described with reference to the schematic diagram of FIG. 5. Much like the input system, services system 110 can